Foodgrains Production target

2148. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a long term programme for production of foodgrains by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the target set up the production of foodgrains by 2000 AD; and

(c) the various strategies proposed to be adopted to achieve that target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYA LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) According to projections made in the Seventh Five Year Plan, the estimated requirement of foodgrains by 2000 AD would be 235-240 million tonnes.

(c) According to the Seventh Plan Document the strategies to be adopted to achieve the target would incldue inter alia;

(i) emphasis on research in emerging areas like biotechnology, genetic engineering, photosynthesis, tissue culture, bioinsecticides and pheromones and its application for aiding the growth of agricultural productivity;

(ii) accelerate research on dryland farming, and the transfer of new technology from lab to farm, to channelise more credit, and the development of marketing facilities in dryland areas;

(iii) the introduction of modern management techniques in relation to irrigation and agriculture extension services reform and revitalisation of the cooperative movement;

(iv) increased use of fertilizers and new high yielding varieties of seed and expansion of irrigation facilities; and the detailed strategies to be adopted in the Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan would be spelt out in the respective Plan documents.

Danger of pesticides

2149. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the danger of pesticides and need for development of safe alternatives advocated by Vivan Fernandes as appeared in the Hindustan Times of 4th July, 1989; and

(b) whether Government have examined and acted upon many useful recommendations made at the National Core-Group meeting on pesticides held at Delhi in February, 1989 and which was attended by top Government and non-government scientists and professionals and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has no communication from the National Core Group regarding its recommendations.

टाटा द्वारा उच्च दामों पर "बेकार" इस्पात की बिक्री

2150. **श्री राम नरेश यादव** : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि टाटा समूह "टिस्को स्टील" के उत्पादन के 10% को जो करीब 2 लाख टन होता है "बेकार" दिखाकर ऊंची कीमतों पर बेचकर शेयर होल्डरों का हिस्सा तथा सरकारी करों का लगभग 500 करोड़ रुपये प्रतिवर्ष हड़प कर जाता है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि "टिस्को" के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से टाटा समूह के लिए सात कोयला खानें आरक्षित की गई हैं और इन कोयला खानों से उत्पादित अच्छी क्वालिटी के कोयले को टाटा समूह द्वारा "बेकार"